

Message Text

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R 121700Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7321
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USCINCEUR
OASD/ISA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 STOCKHOLM 1995

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, SW
SUBJECT: US-SWEDISH MILITARY EXCHANGES

SUMMARY: VISIT TO STOCKHOLM BY DOCTOR JOSEPH ANNUNZIATA
(ASSISTANT FOR NORTHERN EUROPE, OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS) HAS
PROVIDED WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION RE:
-- THE SWEDISH ASSESSMENT OF THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN SECURITY
SITUATION;
-- PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE SWEDISH DEFENSE SPENDING;
-- THE RELATIVE PRIORITIES, IN SWEDISH THINKING, OF CONTINUED
ACCESS TO ADVANCED U.S. MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY VERSUS
SELLING SWEDISH MILITARY PRODUCTS (FOR EXAMPLE THE VIGGEN)
TO THIRD COUNTRIES.
THE SWEDES VOICED GROWING CONCERN OVER THE SOVIET CONCENTRATION

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OF NUCLEAR MISSILE SUBMARINES AND INTERMEDIATE-RANGE LAND-BASED

MISSILES IN THE MURMANSK AND KOLA PENINSULA REGION. SWEDES EXPECT THAT INCREASED DEFENSE COSTS WILL IMPOSE REDUCTIONS IN SWEDISH MILITARY FORCES BUT THEY CLAIM WEAPONS IMPROVEMENT WILL ENHANCE OVERALL COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS. FINALLY, THERE APPEAR TO BE SERIOUS BUT PROBABLY AS YET UNDEBATED DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE SWEDISH "MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX" OVER THE IMPORTANCE OF SELLING THE VIGGEN TO THIRD COUNTRIES (FOR EXAMPLE INDIA). THE BALANCE OF POWER SEEMS TILTED TOWARD THOSE WHO WOULD OPPOSE ANY SUCH CONTROVERSIAL SALE, IF THE POSSIBILITY TOOK FIRM SHAPE, EITHER AS DESTABILIZING OR AS PREJUDICIAL TO THE GREATER INTEREST OF CONTINUED ACCESS TO U.S. MILITARY TECHNOLOGY. END SUMMARY.

1. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS. ANNUNZIATA'S PRINCIPAL CONTACTS INCLUDED:

EMBASSY:

RICHARD G. JOHNSON, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, A.I. AND
COLONEL JOHN R. BURMAN, DEFENSE-AIR ATTACHE:

MFA:

LEIF LEIFLAND, DIRECTOR FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS;

MINISTRY OF DEFENSE:

LENNART GRAPE,
SVEN HELLMAN,
INGMAR DOERFER,
KATARINA BRODIN;

DEFENSE STAFF:

LT. GENERAL GUNNAR EKLUND, CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF,
COMMODORE CARL ALGERNON, CHIEF FOR INTELLIGENCE, DEFENSE STAFF
COLONEL ROLF WIGUR, PLANNING AND STUDIES SECTION CHIEF,
DEFENSE STAFF;

DEFENSE MATERIEL ADMINISTRATION:

PER OVE LJUNG, DIRECTOR GENERAL
MAJOR GENERAL SVEN OLOF OLIN, CHIEF OF AIR FORCE DEPARTMENT,
MAJOR GENERAL KARL-GUSTAF STAHL, CHIEF FOR ARMY DEPARTMENT,
MAJOR GENERAL BENGT LEHANDER, CHIEF OF PLANNING DIRECTORATE.

2. INCREASED U.S.-SWEDISH TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION.

TALKS WERE A FOLLOW-UP TO DISCUSSIONS CONDUCTED DURING
VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF SWEDISH DEFENSE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN/
MFA STATE SECRETARY ANDERS THUNBORG IN JUNE 1975. MOD AND
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DEFENSE STAFF OFFICIALS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE
MAINTENANCE OF A SWEDISH AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY AND RELATED
INDUSTRY CAPABILITY AS A REQUIREMENT TO SUPPORT THE DETERRENT
CREDIBILITY OF SWEDEN'S POLICY OF WELL-ARMED NON-ALIGNMENT.
AT THE SAME TIME, THE PARTICULAR OFFICIALS ANNUNZIATA MET
GENERALLY DOWN-PLAYED THE IMPORTANCE IN THIS RESPECT OF
SELLING THE VIGGEN ABROAD. THIS IS IN CONTRAST WITH THE
EMPHASIS GIVEN THIS RELATIONSHIP BY SAAB-SCANIA'S PRESIDENT

CURT MILEIKOVSKY AND THE SUPREME COMMANDER, GENERAL STIG
SYNNERGREN. THE CHIEF CONCERN OF MOD AND DEFENSE STAFF
OFFICIALS WAS TO SEE THAT BUDGET LIMITATIONS WILL BE
COMPENSATED FOR BY INCREASED COOPERATION WITH THE U.S.
IN AREAS OF DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY AND ASSISTANCE.

3. VIGGEN SALES. DEFENSE OFFICIALS SEEMED GENERALLY
IGNORANT OF POSSIBLE VIGGEN SALES TO INDIA. MFA POLITICAL
DIRECTOR LEIFLAND, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS WELL AWARE OF
THE POSSIBILITY AND STATED THAT WHILE THERE COULD CONCEIVABLY
BE A CHANGE, IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE GOS COULD APPROVE
SUCH SALES TODAY. HE INDICATED THAT THIS ATTITUDE OF PROBABLE
DISAPPROVAL HAS BEEN COMMUNICATED TO SAAB-SCANIA.

4. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY'S DEFENSE ATTACHE HAS LEARNED
FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE THAT MILEIKOVSKY READS THE MFA
MESSAGE NOT AS DISAPPROVAL BUT AS ENCOURAGING OR ALLOWING
HIM TO PROCEED WITH HIS CURRENT SALES EFFORTS, SO LONG
AS THE U.S. HAS NOT GIVEN A SPECIFIC NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO
PROBES ABOUT THE U.S. THUS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE MFA
WOULD PREFER THAT THE ONUS FOR BLOCKING THE SALE OF
VIGGENS TO INDIA WOULD FALL ON THE U.S. RATHER THAN ON THE
MFA.

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CIAE-00 ACDA-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 SP-02 EB-03 TRSE-00

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R 121700Z APR 76 ZDK

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LIMDIS

5. WASHINGTON VISIT OF DEFENSE UNDERSECRETARY ULF LARSSON.

DEFENSE OFFICIALS AGREED THAT THE AGENDA ITEMS FOR LARSSON'S FORTHCOMING VISIT SHOULD REMAIN IN THE AREA OF BROAD POLICY AND NOT TECHNICAL DETAILS. NEITHER LARSSON NOR HIS AIDE MR. SOEREN NILSSON HAS TECHNICAL OR MILITARY QUALIFICATIONS. ALTHOUGH NILSSON IS FORMALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ARMY MATERIEL QUESTIONS ON THE DEFENSE MINISTRY'S SMALL STAFF, HE HAS BEEN MAINLY INVOLVED OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS IN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY'S STUDY OF INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION (TRANSLATED SUMMARY POUCHED UNDER SEPARATE COVER).

6. CONCERN OVER MURMANSK-KOLA CONCENTRATION. IN ALL DISCUSSIONS, THE SWEDES VOICED CONCERN OVER THE SOVIET BUILDUP IN THE MUR-

MANSK AREA, IN CONTRAST TO THE DECLINING

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IMPORTANCE OF THE BALTIC AND OF LENINGRAD AS A MAJOR NAVAL BASE. LEIFLAND BELIEVES THAT 70 PERCENT OF SOVIET NUCLEAR MISSILE SUBMARINE FORCE IS BASED IN THE MURMANSK AREA WHEREAS THE PRESENCE OF LONG-RANGE MISSILE CARRIERS IS

UNDERSTANDABLE IN TERMS OF WORLD STRATEGY, SWEDEN IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED, HOWEVER, OVER THE PRESENCE IN THE NORTH CAPE REGION OF WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS SHORT- OR INTERMEDIATE-RANGE MISSILES. HE MENTIONED THE SOVIET TEST-FIRING OF A MISSILE FROM THIS REGION WHICH IMPACTED IN THE AREA OF SVAALBARD JUST PRIOR TO A SCHEDULED CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE USSR AND NORWAY RE SVAALBARD. THESE MISSILES, SAID LEIFLAND, COULD OBVIOUSLY BE TARGETTED AGAINST SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

7. FORCE LEVEL PROSPECTS. CONSENSUS AMONG SWEDISH OFFICIALS IS THAT INCREASED DEFENSE COSTS WILL IMPOSE REDUCTIONS IN MILITARY FORCES OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS BUT THE ADDITION OF IMPROVED WEAPONS, NOTABLY RBS-70 GROUND-TO-AIR, TOW, HARPOON AND MAVERICK MISSILES, JA-37 VIGGEN, AND OTHER EQUIPMENT, WOULD MEAN NO DEGRADATION BUT ACTUAL IMPROVEMENT IN COMBAT EFFECTIVENESS.

JOHNSON

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